

MEETING MINUTES
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONER
TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.
COUNCIL/COMMISSIONER ROOM,
ROOM 103, MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE,
100 E MAIN ST., CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN

The May 15, 2018 Montgomery County Council Meeting was held at 9:00 am at the Montgomery County Courthouse in the Council Room. In attendance were Council President Terry Hockersmith, Councilmen Gary Booth, Don Mills, Mark Smith, Mark Davidson, Greg Morrison and Richard Chastain. Auditor Jennifer Andel and Attorney Rob Reimondo were present, as well as Commissioner John Frey and Attorney Dan Taylor.

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Hockersmith called the meeting to order. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, then a Prayer given by Councilman Mills.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion to approve the April 10, 2018 minutes as made by Councilman Morrison, seconded by Councilman Mills. Motion carried 7-0.
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS: None.
- IV. MONEY MATTERS:
 - A. Additional:
 1. \$299.10 (REIMBURSEMENT) to COGEN – Jail – Meals (1000.0380.420.422.0.0064)
 2. \$250.00 (REIMBURSEMENT) to COGEN – Jail – Repairs Building (1000.0380.430.436.0.0051)
 3. \$372.84 (REIMBURSEMENT) to PS LIT – Sheriff – Communications (1170.0005.430.432.0.0017)
 - a. Sheriff Casteel reported lines 1-3 are all reimbursements.
 - b. A motion to approve lines 1-3 as made by Councilman Davidson, seconded by Councilman Chastain. Motion carried 7-0.
 4. \$5,000.00 to COGEN – Probation – Probation Officer (1000.0235.410.411.0.0024)
 - a. Probation Director Andria Geigle explained this was to cover a correction to a salary line.
 - b. A motion to approve lines 4 as made by Councilman Chastain, seconded by Councilman Morrison. Motion carried 6-1 with Council President Hockersmith in opposition.
 5. \$150.00 to Local Health Maintenance – Social Security (1168.0610.410.412.0.0021)
 6. \$15,000.00 to Local Health Maintenance – ULV Machine (1168.0610.440.445.0.TBD)
 7. \$2,08.16 to LHD Trust – Water Lab Tech (1206.0610.410.412.0.0015)
 8. \$500.00 to LHD Trust – Other Supplies (1206.0610.420.422.0.0010)
 - a. MCDH Administrator Amber Reed explained Lines 5-8, as well as Reduction (C) lines 1-2, are adjustments to the LHM and LHD budgets. These budgets were pre-approved by Council, then submitted to the State. These adjustments reflect the States final approval amounts.
 - b. A motion to approve lines 5-8 and Reduction lines 1-2 as made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Morrison. Motion carried 7-0.
 9. \$1,779.72 to Plat Book – Printer Maintenance (1181.0002.430.436.0.0012)
 10. \$1,500.00 to Plat Book – Maps & Plat Books (1181.0002.430.433.0.0015)
 11. \$750.00 to Plat Book – Seminars/Training (1181.0002.430.432.0.0020)
 12. \$1,075.31 to Plat Book – Ink (1181.0002.420.421.0.0011)
 13. \$2,000.00 to Plat Book – Office Supplies (1181.0002.420.421.0.0010)
 - a. Auditor Andel requested lines 9-13 to complete moving the Plat Book budget back into her office. This budget was approved last year and the move was approved in January. This simply moves the budget into her department.
 - b. A motion to approve lines 9-13 as made by Councilman Booth, seconded by Councilman Morrison. Motion carried 7-0.
 - B. Transfers:
 1. \$900.00 from COGEN – Coroner – Autopsy Fees (1000.0007.430.431.0.0063) to Equipment (1000.0007.440.445.0.0011)
 - a. Coroner Forman is requesting this transfer to cover the final costs of the new cooler set-up. It came in a little over budget, but is now working.
 - b. A motion to approve line 1 as made by Councilman Davidson, seconded by Council President Hockersmith. Motion carried 7-0.
 2. \$5,000.00 from COGEN – Circuit Court – Law Clerk (1000.0232.430.431.0.0031) to Indigent Defendant Misc. (1000.0232.430.431.0.0036)
 - a. Attorney Dan Taylor confirmed this line is to cover court appointed attorneys to work on

appeals.

- b. A motion to approve lines 1-7 as made by Councilman Mills, seconded by Councilman Chastain. Motion carried 7-0.

C. Reductions:

- 1. \$8,380.16 from Local Health Maintenance (fund 1168 – Multiple Lines)
- 2. \$5,350.00 from LHD Trust (fund 1206 – Multiple Lines)
 - a. See IV.8.b above.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Sheriff Casteel stated his concern for the loss of their General Ed teacher at the Jail, due to cuts in Law Ed money. He is very much in support of this program and is requesting use of Commissary funds, not tax money, to cover the salary and benefits for the remainder of 2018.
 - a. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Chastain, seconded by Councilman Morrison. Motion carried 7-0.
- B. Paul Bledsoe, on behalf of Lake Holiday residents, requested the Council consider helping to fix Lake Holiday Roads. After some discussion, the consensus was Lake Holiday is not a government unit and, therefore, is not eligible to receive any of the road money provided to the County.
- C. Andria Geigle announced Probation has been awarded the DOC grant for the third year. Before accepting this grant, she is requesting the Council approve her hiring a Problem-Solving Case Manager for use in the drug and vet courts. Start date would be July 1. The salary and benefits would be partially covered by the grant money. The exception is there is a salary cap of \$35k and she plans to pay approximately \$45k. She assured Council that Probation would cover the difference, with no monies being needed from County General. Councilman Booth requested a breakdown of the grant and its expenditures.
 - a. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Mills, seconded by Councilman Chastain. Motion carried 7-0.

VI. OLD BUSINESS: None.

VII. STAFF & ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS:

- A. Commissioners' Reports
 - 1. John Frey announced the Steering Committee will be hosting three public meetings to discuss the vision and comprehensive plan for the County. All were encouraged to become involved.
- B. Attorney – Dan Taylor (County) reminded the Council that the Investment Policy would expire June 7, 2018. He explained that the Treasurer should be asking for a renewal. The only change, per Taylor, is how the service charges are accounted for.
 - a. With the Treasurer's approval, Council President Hockersmith made a motion to suspend the rules to approve the new Investment Policy, seconded by Councilman Booth. Motion carried 7-0.
 - b. A motion to approve the new Investment Policy was made by Council President Hockersmith, seconded by Councilman Booth. Motion carried 7-0.
- C. Auditor – Jennifer Andel reminded the Council and all department heads that budget season is quickly approaching and Form 1's will be going out early June. Andel and her Chief will be attending State mandated training May 22-25, 2018 in Fort Wayne. The last day to submit Abatements is today, May 15.
- D. Coroner – Darren Forman reported there has been an increase in case load, but a decrease in the number of cases requiring autopsies.
- E. Treasurer – Janet Johnson stated her office is still inputting payments for the May property taxes.
- F. Sheriff – Mark Casteel announced he is already working on his budget and looking for guidance regarding the salaries and raises for 2019 from the ERPS Committee. Councilman and ERPS Committee member Gary Booth stated their intention to have these numbers available in time for budget. Councilman and committee member Mark Davidson agreed with Booth's determination to complete this before budgets are due.

VIII. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

- A. County Highway Director – Jeremy Phillips reported they are getting ready for chip-sealing and said there are lots of ditches and pipes to be repaired/replaced. They are also patching one of the detour roads. Commissioner Frey added that the State will reimburse the County for fixes to 425 E due to the detour.
- B. Emergency Management – Shari Harrington announced there is an LEPC meeting at noon, May 15th.
- C. Health Department – Amber Reed discussed the need to move Samantha Swearingen from part-time Health Educator/Preparedness Coordinator to full-time Health Educator with benefits. This full-time position was approved in 2014 with a \$35k salary, but never filled. Samantha has now obtained all credentials needed for this position and has been fulfilling this role. She is currently being paid out of the Preparedness Budget, but no longer meets the criteria to be paid out of that fund. Reed explained, via transfers, she will not need additional money to cover this move and requested the Council to consider the addition of this position. In other business, Reed stated she has been working with Jeff Johnson of Pam's Promise and an employee of IU, on a grant that will be focused on recovery. She stated MCHD also applied to become a Medicaid provider to help with baby immunizations.
 - a. Councilman Mills made a motion to suspend the rules to approve adding the full-time Health Educator position, seconded by Councilman Morrison. Motion carried 7-0.
 - b. Councilman Mills made a motion to approve this position, seconded by Councilman Booth. Motion carried 7-0.

D. Probation – Andria Geigle announced her Office Administrator was leaving and assured the Council that she will be reverting back to the ERPS for the salary of the new hire.

IX. FUNDED ORGANIZATION REPORTS: None.

X. COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

A. Committee Reports

- a. Mark Davidson wanted to discuss a wind farm abatements. Stating that five years of inaction, lack of contract fulfillment with regards to lessors and local jobs added and the fact that the Statement of Benefits was never signed, he requested Council to rescind the abatement given to Cool Energy. Attorney Reimondo suggested he review the terms of the abatement before action was taken. Davidson made the motion to suspend the rules to rescind the abatement. There was no second. Motion died. Councilman Smith added he would like to discuss this at the next council meeting after Reimondo had time to review the abatement.
- b. Gary Booth reported the RDC is moving forward with raising money to fund the water and sewer expansion. Communication is also an issue. Metronet has already stated an interest in a partnership. Booth also encouraged participation in the upcoming public meetings regarding the county plan/vision. Council President Hockersmith questioned if the RDC made decisions that will potentially cost the County money. Booth responded yes, explaining they redid bonds that the County must guarantee. Hockersmith stated he felt the fiscal body should have more representation on RDC if they can make fiscal decisions that might affect the County.
- c. Don Mills encouraged everyone to attend the public meetings regarding county-wide plan.

B. Liaison Reports: None

XI. CLAIMS: None.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

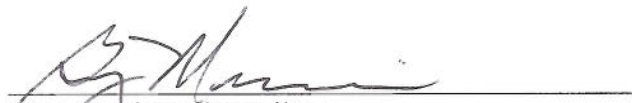
- a. John Frey congratulated all members of the Council race.
- b. Mark Davidson wanted to know where the Council stood on an abatement for Apex:
 - i. Mark Smith was against
 - ii. Richard Chastain was neutral, stating it would be a business decision, not a personal one.
 - iii. Mark Davidson was against all abatements for any wind farms.
 - iv. Greg Morrison was neutral, agreeing with Chastain.
 - v. Gary Booth, by default, is against abatements and therefore against, unless he sees a clear benefit to the County.
 - vi. Don Mills has been looking to other counties and does not see a great benefit. He stated he would need more information, but is currently against.
 - vii. Terry Hockersmith stated there is lots to consider, but is against without a proof of benefit. He asked Commissioner Frey if the Council denied an abatement, would the Commissioners grant a TIF. Frey responded no.
- c. Roger Dieckmeyer of Lake Holiday stated his concern for the increase in property taxes.

XIII. INSERT – Next Regular Council Meeting: June 12, 2018.

XIV. ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Booth, seconded by Council President Hockersmith. Motion carried 7-0.


Terry Hockersmith, President



Don Mills, Vice President


Greg Morrison, Councilman


Gary Booth, Councilman VP


Richard Chastain, Councilman


Mark Davidson, Councilman


Mark Smith, Councilman

Attest:


Jennifer Andel, Auditor